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Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

2. Regulation 4.13 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as necessary to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 proposed in the annex are as follows: modification of the overall orientation (para. 17.3) and of subprogramme 4 (paras. 17.21-17.23); subprogramme 5 (paras. 17.25, 17.27 and 17.28); and subprogramme 10 (paras. 17.48-17.50). The revisions reflect the adoption of new mandates, in particular General Assembly resolutions 55/2 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and 56/95 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

4. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is responsible for reviewing the revisions proposed under the programme. Consultations with the Commission are expected to take place during its next session, scheduled for May 2002 in Brasilia.

5. The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and issued as document A/55/6/Rev.1. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in documents A/56/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 (Introduction, sects. 1-33 and Income sects. 1-3). It was revised and approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/253 and 56/254 of 24 December 2001.

6. In the proposed revisions, new text to be inserted appears in boldface type, and text to be deleted appears in strikeout type. An explanation of the changes is provided in italic type within brackets.

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Annex

Proposed revisions to programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Overall orientation

Strategy

17.3 The Commission's overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 12 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. It is based on the proposal for changing production patterns with social equity for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted by ECLAC in its resolution 519 (XXIV). **It also takes into account the relevant provisions of the Millennium Declaration, especially those related to poverty reduction, including gender mainstreaming; sustainable development; international cooperation to solve, social, cultural and humanitarian issues; transparency of monetary, financial and trade systems at the national and international levels; and furtherance of the special needs of small island developing States**. The strategy will be implemented through an integrated approach. This approach is reflected in each of the subprogrammes at two levels: the goal of social equity, which emerges in its various dimensions in all subprogrammes; and, notwithstanding the effective specialization of each, emphasis on the strong links between the subprogrammes. ~~Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelationships~~. The strategy places special emphasis, in terms of analytical work, on the design of public policy and on facilitating its practical implementation through operational services in the areas of specialized information, technical assistance and training and by fostering cooperation at the regional and international levels. *[changed to reflect the relevant elements of the Millennium Declaration and the roadmap towards its implementation (A/56/326)]*

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

Strategy

17.21 As part of the strategy, methodological inputs will be provided through the development of new criteria for measuring efficiency in the use of resources and effectiveness in the execution of social policies, programmes and projects. An attempt will be made to strengthen social institutions and evaluate results, with special attention paid to factors and situations that affect vulnerable groups. Stronger interaction between this and other subprogrammes will be promoted to identify and analyse factors that enhance equity and social integration. **In the context of social development and equity, special emphasis will be given to consolidating the approach to development based on human rights and the promotion of peace and democracy.** Policy proposals will be developed on the basis of this integrated approach. This strategy requires a mix of policy-making activities involving analysis, methodology, assessment and formulation of proposals together with relevant technical cooperation activities. Support will be provided to countries in the review, design and implementation of new or additional policies, mechanisms and instruments, as appropriate. The mix of policy-making activities will include technical cooperation, consultancy missions and training in methodologies and assessment. In addition, the strategy will facilitate follow-up of studies and strengthen coordinated action by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations in the areas of production, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs. Policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty will be facilitated by systematizing and analysing crucial information, preparing diagnostic analyses and developing methodologies. *[changed to reflect emerging issues stemming from the World Summit for Social Development, the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and the Millennium Declaration]*

Expected accomplishments

17.22 The expected accomplishment would include: (a) strengthened capacity of countries to design and implement policies that target the most underprivileged sectors so as to increase the quality of human capital, ~~and~~ foster social equity **and reduce poverty with a focus on gender inequality**; (b) **strengthened international and regional cooperation and** increased capacity of national social institutions to analyse **and share** their experiences in managing social policies, programmes and projects and to incorporate any necessary adjustments; ~~(c) facilitation of the appropriate design and review of policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty~~; ~~(d)~~**(c) increased coordination among national and regional actors engaged** ~~strengthened international and regional cooperation and increased capacity of programmes~~ in the prevention of drug consumption and the control of drug trafficking **and improved efficiency of programmes** in terms of targeting, selectivity and impact; and ~~(e) strengthened capacity of Member States of the region to manage and mitigate the adverse social impacts of structural adjustment measures as well as the challenges of globalization problems to their economies~~; **(e) improved analytical capacity to mainstream gender concerns in social policy and programming.** *[changed to reflect table 19.13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253]*

Indicators of achievement

17.23 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) the **number of** ~~expression of satisfaction by member~~ countries **receiving analytical inputs, policy recommendations** ~~with the timeliness, significance and relevance of the information, advice~~ and technical cooperation ~~provided by~~ **from** the Commission **that undertake the revision and/or reform of their social policies in a manner consistent with ECLAC recommendations and proposals** ~~to be measured through various means, such as surveys, reviews and quotations in specialist literature and the opinion of eminent experts~~ in the field; (b) **increased sharing of best practices and lessons learned regarding the design and implementation of social** ~~an increase in the capacity of Governments to adapt~~ policies, **programmes and projects among member States** ~~and guidelines to changing circumstances; and (c) the fulfilment by ECLAC of the demand for advice and training~~ **(c) the degree of satisfaction expressed by member countries with the usefulness of inter-agency and expert forums organized and/or serviced by the Commission intended to facilitate programme coordination in the prevention of drug consumption; (d) an increase in the number of countries using the analytical inputs, policy proposals and technical cooperation services provided by the Commission on the prevention of drug consumption and the control of drug trafficking for policy purposes; and (e) increased inclusion of gender issues in social policies and programming.** *[changed to reflect table 19.13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253]*

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Strategy

17.25 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Women and Development Unit in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission. The strategy will be pursued by promoting the consolidation and strengthening of the institutional mechanism in the region for reducing the gender gap in various spheres of development. The region's capacity for research and development related to gender issues **and for using a core set of gender indicators for public policy formulation and implementation** will be strengthened. ~~and~~ Countries will be assisted in analysing priority issues for gender equity and for mainstreaming the gender perspective in all relevant activities. *[changed to reflect, inter alia, ECLAC resolution 576 (XXVIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/27]*

Expected accomplishments

17.27 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened and consolidated national and regional institutions ~~whose purpose is~~ **intended** to reduce the gender gap **in various spheres of development** and (b) increased and systematic incorporation of the gender perspective into **national sectoral institutions as well as** into the ECLAC work programme. *[changed*

to reflect table 19.15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253]

Indicators of achievement

17.28 The indicators of achievement would be: (a) ~~the expression of satisfaction by member countries with~~ **increased use of** up-to-date ~~information~~ **analysis** and gender-sensitive **indicators,** methodologies and information **developed and** provided by the Commission **to support national and regional institutions regarding** ~~on~~ priority issues; ~~contained in the programmes of action~~; ~~and~~ (b) **an increase in** the number of **ECLAC** subprogrammes **and extrabudgetary projects** which, by the end of the period, have systematically incorporated the gender perspective into their principal ongoing activities; ~~and extrabudgetary projects.~~ **(c) improved consolidation of national and regional institutions dealing with gender issues; (d) increased sharing of experiences and lessons learned in relation to the implementation of the regional programme; (e) the number of countries receiving conceptual inputs and technical cooperation from ECLAC that report by the end of the period of the medium-term plan favourable trends in the implementation of the agreements and goals of the Beijing Platform for Action; and (f) the number of countries in the region using the agreed core set of gender indicators in their national reports to be presented for the ten-year benchmark of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 2005.** *[changed to reflect table 19.15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253; one indicator added to reflect a change in the strategy]*

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

Strategy

17.48 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. The strategy is geared towards **strengthening the activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and** meeting the demand for information arising from new economic modalities in the region engendered by economic, social and institutional reforms and the growing internationalization of economies and societies. The production of statistics as well as the data banks of the Commission's technical cooperation programmes (at the methodological, technological and training levels) will be further expanded and strengthened. In the economic sphere, specific aspects, such as internal and external financing, modern services and variations in the value of physical and financial stocks will be considered. In the social sphere, equity-related issues will be accounted for in evaluating new economic modalities such as poverty, income distribution and the informal or low-productivity sectors. Prospective studies and projections will be produced to gauge trends in the new regional context and challenges arising in the economic and social spheres and to provide tools for the evaluation of advantages, costs and challenges corresponding to differing development scenarios. The subprogramme will pursue the strengthening of capacity for analysing current economic events in order to assist countries with their short-term policies and the introduction of methods and techniques for improving thematic and geographical coverage as well as the quality of statistical data. *[changed to reflect the new mandate related to the Statistical Conference of the Americas]*

Expected accomplishments

17.49 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased capacity of ECLAC and member countries to produce statistics, to expand, update and develop data banks, **including those related to environment and gender indicators**, and to generate analyses of current economic trends as inputs for the management of short-term policies; and (b) expanded and improved technical capacity of countries in the region to produce statistics and forecasts as inputs for developing economic and social programmes in the short, medium and long term. *[changed to reflect table 19.25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253]*

Indicators of achievement

17.50 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) ~~an increase in the number~~ **improved timeliness, reliability and comparability** of databases and expansion of their coverage; (b) an increase in the use of ECLAC statistical

information in forecasts by countries and regional or international organizations; ~~(c) the satisfaction of requests for technical cooperation in the area of statistics and projections~~; **(c) an increase in the systematic availability and use of gender indicators for policy-making purposes, as measured by the satisfaction expressed by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, national statistical offices and women's bureaus;** and (d) the widespread adoption and dissemination by countries in the region of methodological and technological advances that ECLAC assists in channelling, in particular the harmonized commodity description and coding system. *[changed to reflect table 19.25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253]*

Legislative mandates

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

General Assembly resolutions

~~53/28~~	~~*Implementation* of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development. (Subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)~~
~~54/141~~	~~Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (Subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)~~
~~54/197~~	~~Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries (Subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)~~
~~54/211~~	~~Developing human resources for development (Subprogrammes 4 and 5)~~
~~54/232~~	~~Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty~~
55/2	**United Nations Millennium Declaration (all subprogrammes)**
~~54/198~~ **55/182**	International trade and development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12)
55/199	**Ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 8 and 12)**
56/95	**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (all subprogrammes)**
56/132	**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)**
56/150	**The right to development (all subprogrammes)**
56/177	**Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)**
56/181	**Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)**
~~54/201~~ **56/182**	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
~~54/210~~ **56/188**	Women in development (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
56/189	**Human resources development (subprogrammes 2, 4 and 5)**
56/195	**International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (subprogrammes 11 and 12)**

56/199 **Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (subprogrammes 8 and 9)**

56/207 **Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)**

~~54/231~~ **56/209** Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)

56/226 **World Summit on Sustainable Development (subprogrammes 8, 9, 11 and 12)**

56/228 **Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (subprogrammes 4 and 6)**

Economic and Social Council resolutions

~~1999/55 Integrated and coordinated~~ implementation ~~of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (Subprogrammes 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12)~~

2000/27 **Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels (subprogrammes 4, 5 and 6)**

2001/21 **Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits (subprogrammes 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12)**

~~1999/61~~ **2001/31** Science and ~~technology~~ for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

~~566(XXVII) Programme of Work of the~~ Economic ~~Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2000-2001 (All Subprogrammes)~~

578 (XXVIII) **Programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2002-2003 (all subprogrammes)**

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

General Assembly resolutions

~~50/81 World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond~~

~~51/202 Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development~~

~~54/24 Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages~~

~~54/121~~ **56/115** Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

~~54/120~~ **56/117** Policies and programmes involving youth

~~54/132~~ **56/124** International cooperation against the world drug problem

56/165 **Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights**

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1997/56 **First regional meeting convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to evaluate the World Summit for Social Development**

1998/46 **Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields**

Subprogramme 5
Gender mainstreaming in regional development

General Assembly resolutions

~~50/203~~ ~~Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action~~

56/229 **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

Economic and Social Council resolutions

~~1998/43~~ ~~Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system~~

2001/5 **Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on thematic issues**

2001/41 **Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system**

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

576 (XXVIII) **Follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001**

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

General Assembly resolutions

~~53/169~~ ~~Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence~~

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2000/7 **Establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

580 (XXVIII) **Establishment of the statistical conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**